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### Montana State University given full possession of an atom-smashing linear accelerator previously on loan from the Atomic Energy Commission

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PLEASE DO NOT RELEASE BEFORE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

Montana State University has been given full possession of an atom-smashing linear accelerator that the University has been operating on loan from the Atomic Energy Commission, Dr. Mark Jakobson of the MSU Physics Dept. announced in Missoula Tuesday.

The University is one of fewer than a dozen schools to have this kind of atom research equipment. Under Jakobson's direction, the accelerator is currently being used to study the range of electrons in materials and the disintegration of berrilium atoms under bombardment by high-energy X-rays and electrons.

The linear accelerator was originally loaned to the University through the United States Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare via the donable property division of the Montana State Dept. of Public Instruction. Title to the machine was transferred to MSU through the same channels.

Following arrival of the accelerator on the MSU campus in 1954, Dr. Jakobson supervised installation of additional equipment to aid in the particular studies that are going forward in the Physics Dept. The equipment is valued at approximately \$250,000.

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